SIXTEENTH DAY

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, February 25, 2003

The House meets at 4:00 p.m. pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by Speaker Black.

The following prayer is offered by the Reverend Jim Lambeth, House Chaplain:

"'The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.' (Psalm 50)

"God of all power, the media is full these days of words of expected bloodshed:

From opposing forces in Afghanistan, Iraq, Korea, Israel, Palestine, even our own country. May it be not so - may Your will and power for peace prevail.

There are even those who write that there have been bloody battles in this House of Representatives. May it be not so - may Your will and power for peace prevail.

"God, we pray for Your blessing on the work of this place on this day. May the differences of opinion that exist be occasions for creative government, not bloodshed. May the many opportunities that exist for work that will make a positive difference in the lives of the people of this great State become a reality in the labors of these dedicated Representatives.

"We lift to You the prayers of our hearts as we remember Jim McElroy of the Clerk's staff.

"God, speak and summon each of us once more to a vision of Your peaceable kingdom of justice and righteousness.

"In Your almighty name we pray. Amen."

Representative Culpepper reports the Journal of February 24 has been examined and found correct. Upon his motion, the Journal is approved as written.